GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:8045
ANSWERED ON:17.05.2000
TARGET OF FOODGRAIN PRODUCTION
PRABHUNATH SINGH

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation are in likely to achieve the target of foodgrain production during the Ninth Five Year Plan due to non-allocation of funds as demanded by them;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Planning Commission has refused to increase the allocation of funds to agricultural sector for the year 1999-2000; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

(SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO)

(a) & (b) Actual realization of target of 234 million tonnes, set for the end year of the Ninth Five Year Plan, i.e. 2001-2002, depends on a large number of factors like agro- climatic factors, farm size, timely use of quality inputs, development and adoption of package of improved practices, besides level of investment. The Government on its part are taking a number of steps to increase production and productivity of foodgrains in the country. The Government is implementing centrally sponsored Integrated CerealDevelopment Programmes in rice/wheat/coarse cereals based cropping system area, National Pulses Development Project etc. Under these programmes/projects, incentives are provided to farmers for use of high yielding varieties of seeds, application of integrated pest management, propagation of scientific water management and use of improved farm implements. Research is also being continuously undertaken to develop improved technologies so as to enhance the productivity and production of foodgrains in India. Field demonstrations on farmers' holdings including training of farmers and farm labourers is being organized for effective transfer of technology.

(c) & (d) Planning Commission could not provide an increase in allocation to Department of Agriculture and Cooperation beyond Rs.1950 crores during 2000/2001 due to overall budgetary constraints and other priority requirements.